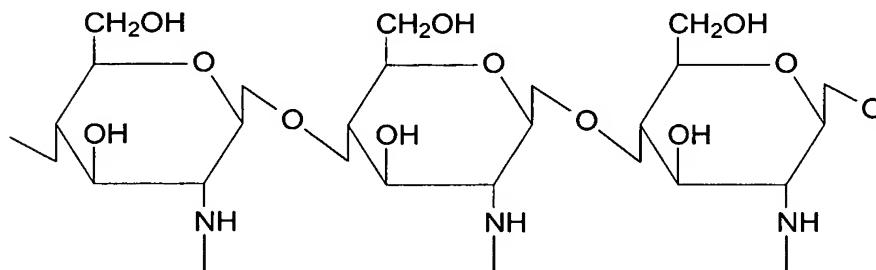


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition for treating oversprayed paints comprising:
 - (a) an aqueous solution of a compound having the following structure:
 - (b) a complex metal salt capable of flocculating the oversprayed paint;



and

- (c) water.

2. A composition as in claim 1, wherein said complex metal salt is selected from the group consisting of aluminum chlorohydrate, aluminum sulfate, zinc chloride, ferric chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof.
3. A composition as in claim 1, wherein said complex metal salt is provided in a greater amount than said aqueous solution of chitosan, based on the total weight of the composition.
4. A composition as in claim 1, wherein said complex metal salt is provided in an amount of from about 2 to about 40 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
5. A composition as in claim 1, wherein said aqueous solution of said compound is an aqueous solution of chitosan.
6. A composition as in claim 5, wherein said aqueous solution of chitosan comprises a mixture of water, chitosan, and an acid capable of rendering said chitosan soluble in water.

7. A composition as in claim 6, wherein said chitosan is provided in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

8. A composition as in claim 6, wherein said acid is provided in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10 percent by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.

9. A composition as in claim 6, wherein said acid is acetic acid.

10. A composition as in claim 5, wherein said aqueous solution of chitosan includes a viscosity of from about 200 to about 3000 centipoise.

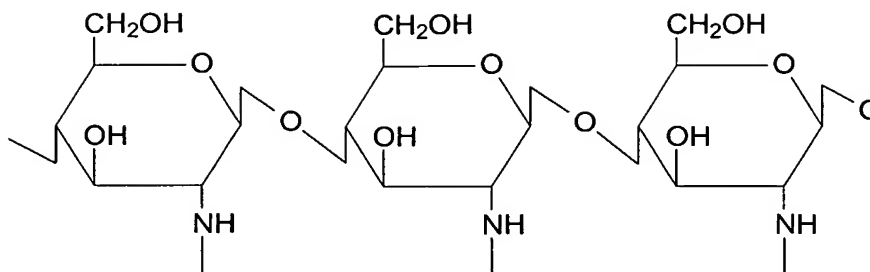
11. A composition as in claim 1, wherein said composition comprises a liquid concentrate for addition to water systems for use in paint spray booths.

12. A composition as in claim 1, further comprising bentonite clay.

13. A composition as in claim 12, wherein said bentonite clay is provided in an amount of from about 5 to 10 percent, based on the total weight of the composition.

14. A composition for treating oversprayed paints comprising:
 (a) between about 0.1 and about 10 percent, based on the total weight of the composition, of acetic acid;
 (b) between about 0.1 and about 10 percent, based on the total weight of the composition, of chitosan;
 (c) between about 2 and about 40 percent, based on the total weight of the composition, of an aluminum chlorohydrate complex salt; and
 (d) water.

15. A method of treating oversprayed paint particles in a paint spray booth including a circulating water system, said method comprising contacting said oversprayed paint particles with a water system including a composition comprising an aqueous solution of a compound having the following structure:



and a complex metal salt.

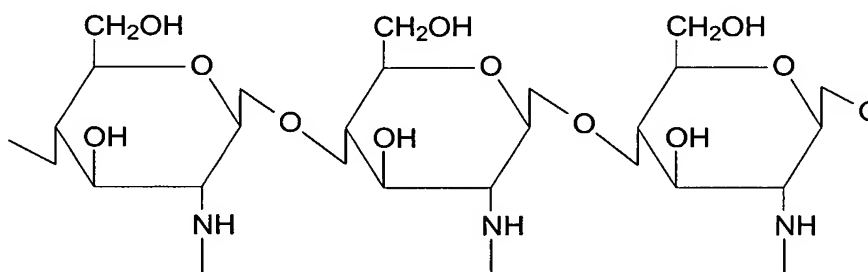
16. A method as in claim 15, wherein said aqueous solution of said compound comprises an aqueous solution of chitosan.

17. A method as in claim 15, wherein said composition detackifies and flocculates said oversprayed paint particles.

18. A method as in claim 15, further comprising the step of separating said flocculated oversprayed paint particles from said water system.

19. A method of treating oversprayed paint in a paint spray booth including a solvent-based paint denaturant system, said method comprising:

contacting said oversprayed paint with a dispersion of an organic solvent component in water including a composition comprising an aqueous solution of a compound having the following structure:



and a complex metal salt, thereby collecting said oversprayed paint; causing the dispersion to phase separate into an organic phase containing paint overspray and an aqueous phase; and separating the organic phase from the aqueous phase.

20. A method as in claim 19, wherein said composition comprising an aqueous solution of said compound and a complex metal salt decreases the time for phase separation of said organic phase and said aqueous phase.

21. A method as in claim 19, wherein said complex metal salt is selected from the group consisting of aluminum chlorohydrate, aluminum sulfate, zinc chloride, ferric chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium hydroxide, and mixtures thereof.

22. A method as in claim 19, wherein said aqueous solution of said compound comprises an aqueous solution of chitosan.

23. A composition as in claim 22, wherein said aqueous solution of chitosan comprises a mixture of water, chitosan, and an acid capable of rendering said chitosan soluble in water.

24. A composition as in claim 19, further comprising bentonite clay.